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May 4th, 1852.

Mr. ORD, President, in the Chair.

Letters were read :

From Commander H. F. Adams, U. S. N., dated Philadelphia, April 20th, 1852, addressed to Dr. Ruschenberger, acknowledging the receipt of a copy of his "Notice of the Academy of Natural Sciences," and expressing his desire to further the objects of the Institution, during his connection with the projected U. S. Expedition to the East Indies.

From Dr. Wm. F. Daniel, dated London, March 12th, 1852, accompanying the donation of a copy of his work on the Diseases, &c., of Western Africa.

Dr. LeConte presented a communication intended for publication, entitled, "Synopsis of the Anthicites of the United States." Referred to Dr. Leidy, Dr. Henderson and Dr. Hallowell.

Dr. Leidy called the attention of members to two crania of extinct species of Ox. One is the original specimen described by Dr. Wistar in the Transactions of the Am. Phil. Soc., and afterwards named *Bos bombifrons* by Dr. Harlan. The second specimen was found on the shore of the Arkansas river, and was brought to this city by Mr. Thomas Kite, of Cincinnati. It is remarkable for the very large process crowning the top of the head, resembling a thick exostosis. Dr. Dekay has described a fragment of the same species,* and referred it to the *Bos Pallasii*, from which it is, however, very distinct. Dr. L. stated that this fossil, as well as that described as *Bos bombifrons*, were remarkable for the possession of large larmiers or lachrymal depressions, as in the deer; and if these are possessed by the *Ovibos moschatus*, the two fossils would belong to the same genus as *Ovibos bombifrons* and *O. cavifrons*; but if they are not possessed by *Ovibos*, as is stated to be the case by Desmarest, the two latter species would form a new genus, for which the name *Bootherium* is proposed.

May 11th.

Major JOHN LECONTE in the Chair.

Letters were read :

From the Smithsonian Institution, dated Washington, April 14, 1852, acknowledging the receipt of the Proceedings of the Academy, Vol. vi. No. 1.

From Prof. A. Retzius, dated Stockholm, Oct. 16, 1851, accompanying his donation of works announced this evening.

From the Rev. Dr. Ducachet, dated May 5, 1852, acknowledging the receipt of his notice of election as a Member.

Mr. Langstroth, referring to the specimens of Honey Ant presented by him this evening, remarked that they were obtained by his brother in the vicinity of Matamoras, Mexico. He had learned that a part of the colony are incapable of locomotion, and are used as living repositories for the surplus honey of the colony, which in time of need answer the purpose of the full honey-combs of the bee.

* An. Lyc. Nat. Hist., Vol. 2, p. 280, pl. vi.

Dr. Leidy remarked that the honey was contained within the stomach, which, with the abdomen, was enormously distended, assuming a globular condition. The pergamentaceous segments are widely separated and appear as black bands upon the dorsal and ventral surfaces of the translucent abdomen. The thorax and head are about two lines long; the distended abdomen $4\frac{1}{2}$ lines in diameter. All the other viscera of the abdomen are completely obliterated, and even the tracheal vessels have entirely disappeared, which is an important physiological fact, as by the supply of oxygen being cut off, none of the honey is consumed in the process of respiration. On the outside of the basement membrane of the stomach, is a single layer of branching fibres, (muscular?) The striped muscular fibres connecting the abdominal segments together, are collected in very thin bands with wide intervals, and are exceedingly elongated.

A paper by Dr. Woodhouse was presented, entitled "Description of a new species of *Lepus*" (*L. larreae*), and intended for publication; which was referred to Dr. Fisher, Dr. Watson and Dr. Zantzing.

Also a second paper by the same, describing a new species of *Ectopistes*, (*E. marginella*), which was referred to the same Committee.

Mr. Lea read a paper entitled "Description of a fossil Saurian of the New Red Sandstone of Pennsylvania, with some account of the Formation;" which being intended for publication in the Journal, was referred to Mr. Aubrey H. Smith, Mr. W. P. Foulke, and Mr. Vaux.

May 18th.

Vice-President BRIDGES in the Chair.

A letter was read from the Secretary of the Trustees of the New York State Library, dated Albany, May 12th, 1852, acknowledging the receipt of the Proceedings, Vol. vi. No. 1.

Mr. Lea read a paper intended for publication in the Journal, "On some new Fossil Molluscs in the Carboniferous Slates of the Anthracite Seams of the Wilkesbarre Coal Formation," which was referred to Dr. Wilson, Dr. D. D. Owen and Dr. Leidy.

Dr. Owen read a paper entitled "Notice of a Mineral from California," which being intended for publication in the Proceedings, was referred to Dr. C. M. Wetherill, Mr. Vaux and Dr. Rand.

Dr. Bridges read some additions to a paper lately presented by Mr. C. Girard, on the North American *Astaci*; which were referred to the Committee on the former portion of the paper.

May 25th.

The President, Mr. ORD, in the Chair.

The Committee on Mr. Dana's continuation of his descriptions of the Crustacea of the Exploring Expedition, reported in favor of publication in the Proceedings: